

Frank J. Magill, United States Attorney

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist (612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

United States Department of Justice United States Attorney's Office District of Minnesota

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2008

St. Paul man charged with distributing methamphetamine

A 32-year-old St. Paul man was charged yesterday with distributing the highly addictive and dangerous drug methamphetamine.

Israel Garcia Rea was indicted Aug. 4 in Minneapolis with two counts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. Rea's indictment alleges that on July 1 he knowingly and intentionally distributed approximately 440.71 grams of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine.

It also alleges that on July 2, Rea knowingly and intentionally possessed with intent to distribute approximately 888.08 grams of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine.

According to a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) affidavit, police learned about a methamphetamine distribution operation in Dakota and Ramsey counties, including Rea. On July 2, officers arranged a "controlled buy" of 2 pounds of methamphetamine at a location in Dakota County.

Authorities conducted a traffic stop of Rea, during which a K-9 officer alerted police to the driver's door and the rear portion of Rea's vehicle. Officers seized approximately 888.08 grams of methamphetamine from the rear cargo area, and arrested Rea.

If convicted, Rea faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the DEA and the Dakota County Drug Task Force, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nancy E. Brasel.

proven guilty at trial.